



St. Paul's Lutheran Church Messenger

“PROCLAIM CHRIST, MAKE DISCIPLES, SERVE THE LORD”

625 W. Gibson Road, Woodland, CA * Phone 662-1935 * January 2018

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear St. Paul's,

I often find myself looking on the internet for the best of something. Best movie for family, or best cell phone service with multiple users. I like that the internet is full of reviews about what is the best. Often when I look I want a criteria or a way of evaluating what is better and not just opinion. When it comes to spiritual growth, it is interesting how what is best is evaluated, and how views vary. Opinion and how one feels seems to be the rule of thumb. Is that the best way to approach spiritual growth?

How you feel about your spiritual walk with the Lord may seem like an emotional roller coaster at times but is that how it is explained in the Bible?

- Cast your cares on the LORD and he will sustain you.. (Ps 55:22)
- But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. (Mt 6:33)
- Wait on the LORD, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee.. (Ps 37:34)
- but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles (Is 40:31)
- ..put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love.. (Ps 130:7)
- He says, “Be still, and know that I am God.. (Ps 46:10)
- And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. (Mt 28:20)

Jesus and the writers of the scripture talk in a *matter of fact* way that he is faithful in what he has promised to us..

We are in a struggle, of feeling and emotion and worthiness that tends to judge ours or others spirituality based on what we do. Scripture is full of people who doubt or question what will happen or how God will work.

Our part as God's people is to turn to him, call on him, lean, rest, be still, seek, trust and wait on the Lord. These are not so much a measure of our faith but an act of trusting that God will be faithful to do what he has promised. Our acts of trust are often submitting and seeking what it is God will do next.

Happy New Year and Blessings in Christ,

Pastor David Hardin